



# BENZYL CHLOROFORMATE

UN 1739

Shipping Name: Benzyl chloroformate  
Other Names: Benzyl carbonyl chloride  
Benzyl chlorocarbonate  
BZCF



## Hazards:

- Very irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs; prolonged contact with skin can cause burns
- Container may BLEVE when exposed to fire
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Combustion and decomposition products upon heating include toxic hydrogen chloride
- Reacts vigorously with hot water or steam to form hydrochloric acid

## Description:

- Colorless to pale yellow oily liquid
- Acrid odor
- Sinks in water and reacts slowly with cold water forming hydrochloric acid; reacts vigorously with hot water or steam
- Very flammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas

## Operational Level Training Response:

### RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Use large amounts of water to disperse vapors - contain runoff
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

### FIRE:

- If possible, DO NOT allow water to come in contact with material; if material is on fire, use dry chemical to extinguish; if water must be used, use it in flooding quantities
- If material is not leaking, cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of expanding), withdraw immediately to a secure location

## Awareness and Operational Level Training

### Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

## First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
  - ♦ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
  - ♦ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
  - ♦ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
  - ♦ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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